

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The claims are 18-23, 25 and 26.

The above amendment to claim 26 is responsive to Official Action paragraph 2. In this regard, the Examiner's proposal is acknowledged with appreciation and has been adopted.

Turning to Official Action paragraph 4, claims 18-25 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over three Young et al. references.

These rejections are respectfully traversed.

With regard to Young et al. (U.S. 5,192,785, EP 403 185 and U.S. 5,025,031), the rejection states that it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to replace H in -CH= of a phenyl ring with an alkyl or methyl, in the sulfamates with a core: Phenyl-Phenyl-O-SO₂-NH₂ as disclosed in Young et al.

In reply, H (unsubstituted) and alkyl or methyl are very different chemically, physically and further, pharmacologically in the present context and therefore, in order for an art-skilled person to substitute alkyl or methyl for hydrogen in unsubstituted phenyl in the present context, there must be some reason motivating such substitution. The rejection, however has provided no such reason.

Nevertheless, to advance prosecution, "a lower alkyl group" has been deleted from the definition of X¹ and X² in Claims 18 and 21.

Young et al. discloses or suggests no sulfamates that have, on their phenyl group, X¹ and X² substituents as defined in Claim 18 of the present application.

Therefore, the present claims are unobvious from Young et al.


With regard to the rejection to claim 24 as being a substantial duplicate of claim 25, claim 24 has been deleted.

No further issues remaining, allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any comments or proposals for expediting prosecution, please contact undersigned at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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